

REMARKS

Claims 5-28 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 18, 23, 25 and 26 are amended to correct obvious typographical informalities. In particular, claims 18 and 25 have been amended to change "a second side face which is perpendicular to said second side face" to --a second side face which is perpendicular to said second face--, claim 23 has been amended to change "a positions" to --positions--, and a period has been added to the end of claim 26.

The Examiner is requested to consider the references submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement that was filed with this application on April 30, 2001. The Information Disclosure Statement identified the references of record from the parent application (now U.S. Patent No. 6,295,088).

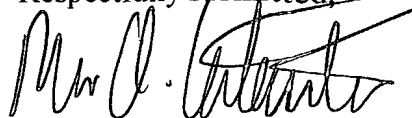
In reply to the Election of Species Requirement, Applicants here by elect the Species of Fig. 14. Applicants submit that claims 10-12 and 14-28 read on Fig. 14. In addition, Applicants submit that at least independent claims 10 and 25 are generic to Figs. 7 and 14, and that dependent claim 13 should be re-joined and allowed when its corresponding independent claim 10 is allowed. See MPEP §821.04.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Election of Species Requirement. In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter of all pending claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would necessarily encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that a search and examination of the entire application could be performed without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions." It is respectfully submitted that the above policy should apply to the present

application in order to avoid unnecessary expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement, and examination of all pending claims, is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Mario A. Costantino
Registration No. 33,565

MAC/ccs

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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